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UNCLAS DUBLIN 001403

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: IRELAND NOT TO ATTEND IRAQ TOKYO DONORS' CONFERENCE

REF: SECSTATE 196084

1. Emboff, drawing on reftel points, spoke on September 21 to First Secretary Aine Hearn at the DFA's Development Cooperation Ireland office. Hearn stated that the GOI will not be sending anyone to the Tokyo Donors' Conference in October due to shortage of staff. The GOI pledged 3 million euros in Madrid to Iraqi development, mostly to UNICEF projects in primary education. To date, Ireland has paid 1.25 million euro, 250,000 euros of which have gone to Assisting Marsh Arabs and Refugees (AMAR) in developing health rehabilitation programs for the Marsh Arabs. The GOI's future contributions hinge on a "wait and see" attitude, and the success of its current contributions in Iraq.

2. Minimize considered.

BENTON